

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY Safety & Health Services Division INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE GROUP Standard Operating Procedure: Field Procedure	NUMBER IH75160
	REVISION FINAL Rev. 0
SUBJECT: Air Sampling Pump Calibration Procedure for the Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter	DATE 03/08/01
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1.0 Purpose / Scope

This document is a written procedure for calibrating air pumps using the Singer Flow Dry Test Meter (also known as a dry gas meter). This procedure provides a simple methodology that will standardize the calibration procedure and describes the technique that insures that flow rates measured will be as accurate as possible.

The Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter was developed to provide a technique for calibrating flow measurements of environmental area pumps. The Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter is best used for high volume pumps with flow over 10 liters/minutes.

2.0 Responsibilities

Only those personnel who have trained and have demonstrated competence in the use of this product to the satisfaction of the IH Group Leader or designee are authorized to complete air pump calibrations.

Persons using this procedure are responsible to follow all provisions of this procedure.

3.0 Policy

3.1 Air temperature, atmospheric pressure, sample media, other environmental factors, battery discharge, and media loading can influence pump capacity. To equalize the effects of these factors, a pump placed in-line with its sample media

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should be calibrated before and after use in the field sampling session.
Calibrations should be done as soon before and after sampling as possible, but in all cases within 24 hours of sampling (exception is line voltage powered pumps).
Post calibration must be done prior to recharging battery-operated pumps.

3.2 To minimize the effect of pump and meter variability, take a total of at least 6 (six) pre- and post-calibration readings (minimum 3 pre and 3 post readings) to determine the average pump flow rate.

3.3 To insure that the dry test meter makes accurate measurements, the meter should be calibrated by a NIST traceable source or primary standard annually.

4.0 Definitions

- 4.1 Media: An assortment of sample devices designed to collect particulate, gases, and vapors into or onto a filter surface, sorbent, or liquid. The most common sampling media include sorbent tubes, filter cassettes, gas sampling bags, cyclones, and impingers.
- 4.2 In-Line: Connecting the sampling medium to the sampling device (such as a filter cassette or sorbent tube cassette to an air-sampling pump via a piece of tubing).

5.0 Prerequisites

- 5.1 Prior to calibrating any air-sampling pump, verify the operability of all sampling pumps and the Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter.
- 5.2 Prior to operating the Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter, verify the qualifications of the personnel conducting the calibrations.

6.0 Precautions

- 6.1 Avoid operating the sampling equipment in excessive chemical or water vapor atmospheres.
- 6.2 **Hazard Determination:** The operation of this test meter in itself does not involve any potential hazards. In the use of the meter to calibrate chemically exposed media, there is a very low potential for exposure to a chemical

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hazard. The level of exposure does not result in the potential for exposure above occupational exposure limits, but handling of exposed media should be minimized.

6.3 Hazardous Waste is not generated in the use of this meter. This meter has no adverse environmental impact.

6.4 Personal Protective Equipment

- 6.4.1 Hand: Under normal use, hand protection is not required. Contact with highly contaminated media requires the use of disposable gloves. Exam-style, splash gloves are acceptable. Acceptable elastomers are: Nitrile, PVC, and Natural Rubber.
- 6.4.2 Body: Under normal use, body protection is not required.
- 6.4.3 Foot: Under normal use, foot protection is not required.
- 6.4.4 Respiratory: Under normal use, respiratory protection is not required.
- 6.4.5 Eye: Safety Glasses with side shields are required.

6.5 Equipment

- 6.5.1 Sample Pump (either):
 - High volume air pump for environmental work area sampling.
 - Personal air-sampling pumps, such as the SKC-224-43XR or the Low flow pump 222-3-Low Flow, for breathing zone sampling
- 6.5.2 Sample Media (any of these depending on the contaminant)
 - Cassettes (37 or 25 mm using various filter media)
 - Various sorbent tubes
 - Culture Media plate for a microbial impaction sampler
- 6.5.3 Tubing (for connection between the calibrator, sampling media and the pumps)

7.0 Procedure

7.1 Pre-calibration

- 7.1.1 Set up the Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter on a sturdy surface to prevent vibrations.

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- 7.1.2 Using tubing, attach the end of the sample media that will be open to the environment directly to the Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter. *Be sure to remove end plugs from media before attaching to the sampling hose.
- 7.1.3 Attach the other end of the sample media, with tubing, to the pump.

7.2 Pre-calibration (prior to field sampling)

- 7.2.1 Start the pump and allow to run for five minutes to warm up and stabilize.
- 7.2.2 Allow the Singer DTM-200 Dry Test Meter to cycle through one revolution.
- 7.2.3 When the arrow reaches the zero again, start the stopwatch.
- 7.2.4 Allow the pump to run for exactly one minute.
- 7.2.5 At precisely the one-minute mark record the reading. (Make sure that at least two full rotations of the meter have been completed. If not, let the meter run for two minutes and divide the results by two.
- 7.2.6 Record three to six readings on the pump on the sampling forms or sample calibration log.

7.3 Post-calibration (following field sampling)

- 7.3.1 Follow the procedures above.
- 7.3.2 Record three to six readings on the pump on the sampling forms or sample calibration log.
- 7.3.3 Remove the sample media from the sample hose and replace end plugs.
- 7.3.4 Clean all pumps and hoses as needed.
- 7.3.5 Place cassettes in plastic bags with all paper work.

7.4 Data Calculations

- 7.4.1 Average the pre-calibration and post calibration flow rate values and record on the sampling forms.

8.0 Attachments

8.1 Photo of Dry Test Meter

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Document Review Tracking Sheet		
PREPARED BY: R. Sells Date 07/01/00	REVIEWED BY: R. Wilson IH Lab Date 02/08/01	APPROVED BY: R. Selvey SHSD IH Group Leader Date 02/06/01
Filing Code: IH52QR.01	DQAR Date	Effective Date: 03/08/01

Periodic Review Record (1 year cycle)		
Date of Review	Reviewer Signature and Date	Comments Attached
02/07/01	<i>(Signature and date on file)</i> R. Selvey 02/07/01	Revised format and added SBMS header, added PPE, Hazard Assessment sections, overall update of text in all sections.
03/08/01	<i>(Signature and date on file)</i> R. Selvey 03/08/01	Revised number from IH-CP-20.2 to new system IH75160. Reviewed text, no changes made. .

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Attachment 8.1: FIGURE 1: Photograph of the Dry Test Meter

Sample Inlet:
Connect “vacuum” from
pump to be calibrated.

Read-out portion of the
unit:
Small divisions are in
“one-tenth-liters”.
Measure the time for the
large sweep hand to make
at least two complete
passes from 1 to 10.

